

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (original): A recording method comprising:  
  
providing a recording head which projects a plurality of recording spots on a recording medium; and  
  
recording, by said projected recording spots, a plurality of colors on the recording medium in both a main scanning direction and a sub-scanning direction perpendicular to said main scanning direction,  
  
wherein said recording step includes offsetting, either upstream or downstream, in the sub-scanning direction, a start position for recording one of at least two colors in the sub-scanning direction, and  
  
further wherein an amount of the offsets is within the range from one spot to the number defined such that total number of spots in the sub-scanning direction subtracts one spot.
2. (previously presented): A recording method comprising:  
  
providing a recording head which projects a plurality of recording spots on a recording medium; and  
  
recording, by said projected recording spots, a plurality of colors on the recording medium in both a main scanning direction and a sub-scanning direction perpendicular to said

main scanning direction, wherein said plurality of colors to be recorded are four colors black, cyan, magenta, and yellow,

wherein said step of recording includes offsetting, either upstream or downstream in the sub-scanning direction, a start position of each color, for recording by said recording head in the sub-scanning direction, is different from one another within a range from one spot to a number defined such that total number of spots in the sub-scanning direction subtracts one spot.

3. (original): The recording method as claimed in 2, wherein a start position for recording a first one of said plurality of colors is offset substantially by one spot, a start position for recording a second one of said plurality of colors is offset substantially by two spots, and a start position for recording a third one of said plurality of colors is offset substantially by three spots.

4. (currently amended): The recording method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said step of recording includes offsetting the projected spots, in correspondence with image data to be projected in the sub-scanning direction, by same amount in an opposite direction of the respective start position which is offset either ~~downstairs~~ downstream or upstream in the sub-scanning direction.

5. (currently amended): A recording apparatus comprising:  
a recording head having a plurality of recording elements arranged in a two-dimensional pattern having both a main scanning direction and ~~[[an]]~~ a sub-scanning direction perpendicular to said main scanning direction, said recording head being configured to record a plurality of colors on a recording medium with spots that key image information to the respective recording

elements; and a controller which controls said recording head so as to implement the recording method recited in claim 1.

6. (currently amended): A recording apparatus comprising  
a recording head having a plurality of recording elements arranged  
in a two-dimensional pattern having both a main scanning direction and [[an]] a  
sub-scanning direction perpendicular to said main scanning direction, said  
recording head being configured to record a plurality of colors on a recording  
medium with spots that key image information to the respective recording elements; and  
a controller which controls said recording head so as to implement  
the recording method recited in claim 2.

7. (currently amended): A recording apparatus comprising:  
a recording head having a plurality of recording elements arranged in a two-dimensional  
pattern having both a main scanning direction and [[an]] a sub-scanning direction perpendicular  
to said main scanning direction, said recording head being configured to record plurality of  
colors on a recording medium with spots that key image information to the respective recording  
elements; and

a controller which controls said recording head so as to implement the recording method  
recited in claim 3.

8. (currently amended): A recording apparatus comprising:  
a recording head having a plurality of recording elements arranged in a two-dimensional  
pattern having both a main scanning direction and [[an]] a sub-scanning direction perpendicular  
to said main scanning direction, said recording head being configured to record a plurality of

colors on a recording medium with spots that key image information to the respective recording elements; and

a controller which controls said recording head so as to implement the recording method recited in claim 4.

9 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein a start position for one of the plurality of colors is offset relative to each of the other plurality of colors.

10 (previously presented): The method of claim 9, wherein the offset between colors is less than 50 micrometers.

11 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, said recording head comprising a laser printer head.

12 (New). The method of claim 1, said recording head comprising at least one of a thermal head and a laser printer head.

13 (New). The method of claim 1, said recording head including multiple spot channels recording plural colors in a same place.